

1. The reply filed on 01/03/2008 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s):

a. The information disclosure statement filed on 01/03/2008 provided a copy of the listing of references considered by the examiner on 09/24/2007 and did not provide a clean listing of the references for the examiner to consider the references supplied on 01/03/2008 as requested by applicant at page 7. Page 7 stated:

Information Disclosure Statement

The Applicants' prior counsel had previously filed Information Disclosure Statements (IDS) with the USPTO with the cited non-published documents on compact disc. Applicants' current counsel have provided copies of the non-considered references in paper form and apologizes for the inconvenience. Thus, the Applicants hereby request acknowledgement of the provided references.

Please provide a listing of the 01/03/2008 references applicant wishes the Examiner to consider.

b. The arguments concerning "flexibly coupled" in claim 82 do not clarify the issue that line 2 claims "at least two degrees of freedom", line 5 claims "at least one of said two rotary degrees of freedom", and at line 8 claims "the at least two degrees of freedom. Thus, "flexibly coupled" in the claims is unclear.

c. The arguments concerning "flexibly coupled" in claim 90 do not clarify the issue that line 2 claims "at least two rotary degrees of freedom" and dependent claim 92 claim at lines 2 and 3 flex in a "first dimension". Thus, "flexibly coupled" in the claims is unclear.

See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this

notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffery A Brier whose telephone number is (571) 272-7656. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 7:30 to 4:00. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Razavi, can be reached at (571) 272-7664. The fax phone Number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Jeffery A. Brier/
Primary Examiner, Division 2628